

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 IO-12 RSR-01 /121 W
----- 030776

R 121614 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5288

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USINT ALGIERS

USCINCEUR

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, PS SS

SUBJECT: SPANISH SAHARA

REF: A. MADRID 936 B. ALGIERS 474

1. IN PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING MARCH 9 MEETING COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, MININFO SANCHEZ BELLA MADE FIRST GOS PUBLIC REFERENCE TO SAHARAN ASSEMBLY' S PETITION REPORTED IN REFS. MININFO TOLD REPORTERS THAT VICE PRESIDENT CARRERO BLANCO HAD INFORMED THE COUNCIL OF TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM FRANCO TO SAHARAN ASSEMBLY IN REPLY TO ASSEMBLY' S MESSAGE DATED FEB 20. REPORTS SAY FRANCO' S MESSAGE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AND CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE WITH REGARD TO THE ASSEMBLY' S PETITIONS. FRANCO REPORTEDLY WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED THE GOVERNMENT TO UNDERTAKE A DETAILED STUDY OF THE ASSEMBLY' S PETITIONS.

2. AN MFA OFFICIAL, WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE SAHARAN ASSEMBLY' S MESSAGE WERE GENERALLY AS REPORTED IN ALGIERS 474, TOLD AN EMBOFF THAT THE MATTER
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WAS STILL RESTRICTED IN SPAIN BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENCY OF GOVERNMENT AND THAT THE TEXT OF NEITHER THE ASSEMBLY'S MESSAGE NOR OF FRANCO'S REPLY COULD THEREFORE BE MADE AVAILABLE.

3. IN A DEVELOPMENT PROBABLY RELATED TO THE SAHARAN QUESTION, MININFO REVEALED IN SAME PRESS CONFERENCE THAT COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD AUTHORIZED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A TOTTED BY HAVING THE LIKES OF DUDLEY ON BOARD SINCE HE IS, AFTER ALL, AMERICA'S BEST FRIEND. HE GAVE HIS WORD OF HONOR REPEAT HONOR REPEAT HONOR IN A MOST SERIOUS VEIN THAT HE WOULD NOT PERMIT JAMAICA TO BECOME ALLIED WITH, IDENTIFIED WITH, GROUPED WITH, OR A PARTY IN A VOTE WITH ANY ANTI- AMERICAN OVERTONES OR, MORE SPECIFICALLY, HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE CURRENT CONTRACTS BETWEEN THE U. S. GOVERNMENT AND PANAMA OVER THE CANAL OR RHETORIC OVER CUBA AND GUANTANAMO BAY. THOMPSON STATED THAT A CONTRACT WAS A CONTRACT AND COULD ONLY BE AMENDED UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW BY THE PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT AND THE REST OF THE WORLD SHOULD STAY OUT OF THINGS THAT DON'T CONCERN THEM.

5. USING THIS AS A SPRINGBOARD, I THEN SUGGESTED THAT DUDLEY FOLLOW HIS OWN ADVICE AND STAY OUT OF PANAMA. HE WENT DOWN THE EXACT LINE OF OUR YUGOSLAV FRIEND AT THE UN, MOJSOV, AND IN FACT STATED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD TURN TO BELIZE AND GUANTANAMO BAY WHERE AGAIN HE SAID JAMAICA WOULD BE A GREAT HELP TO THE U. S.

6. I TOLD HIM THAT MANLEY HAD INFORMED ME HE WOULD NOT BECOME INVOLVED AND THIS CAME AS A GREAT SURPRISE TO THOMPSON AS I AM SURE THE REPEATING OF MY EARLIER CONVERSATION TO MANLEY AND HIS COMMITMENTS THERETO WILL COME AS AN UNPLEASANT SHOCK TO MANLEY.

7. I HAVE KNOWN DUDLEY A LONG TIME AND DON'T TRUST HIM ANY FURTHER THAN I CAN LIFT THE BUREAUCRACY ON ONE FINGER, BUT SOMEHOW IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO DUDLEY FOR ME AND, I SUPPOSE, THE U. S. GOVERNMENT TO KNOW THAT THIS ONE HE WAS GOING TO PLAY ON OUR SIDE. IT COULD BE THAT THE BURNING HE TOOK WHEN I CAUGHT HIM DOUBLECROSSING HIS OWN PRIME MINISTER AT THE NON- ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN GUYANA WHEN HE SUPPORTED THE SEATING OF SIHANOUK AND THE VIET- CONG AGAINST DIRECT ORDERS FROM KINGSTON HAS PUT A LITTLE FEAR INTO HIS BLACK HEART... I JUST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DON' T KNOW.

8. THE SECOND INSTALLMENT OF PEDGE FACES THE PRIME
MINISTER WILL COMMENCE AT 1500 TODAY, MARCH 12,
MINUS ANY INVITATION TO BUY TOOTHPASTE OR TIDE. THE
PLOT SHOULD BE INTERESTING, PROBABLY HAZARDOUS, AND
THE RESULTS PREDICTABLE.
DE ROULET

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